



THE WALKER LEGACY

Olene S. Walker

WALKER WORK PLAN Administration Accomplishments



Maximizing Human Potential

AGRICULTURE

- II The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food announced Phase II of its Non-fat Dry Milk program that distributed seven million pounds of surplus powdered milk to livestock owners who suffered losses due to drought conditions.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- II The Utah Office of Hispanic Affairs organized the first “Latino Day at the Capitol” in an effort to bring greater cohesion to the state’s Hispanic leaders and to inform state legislators of the issues facing Utah’s 250,000 Latino citizens.

CORRECTIONS

- II The Department of Corrections focused on the goal of a ReEntry Initiative. Re-Entry is designed to change criminal thinking errors, provide education and vocational training, and enhance offenders’ preparation for release into the community. Paroling offenders are assisted in the community with “Transition Parole Agents” who provide intensive supervision and help offenders access community resources such as Workforce Services, education, substance abuse classes, religious and volunteer groups. An integral part of the ReEntry Initiative is the use of the volunteer community members who meet as the Community Accountability Board to review offenders’ progress and suggest solutions and sanctions for probationers and parolees having problems. The ReEntry Initiative was one factor that helped reduce recidivism by 8 percent.

EDUCATION

- II Governor Walker made students and literacy a top priority as funding was given to public education and investments were made in the Performance Plus reading program. Governor Walker announced her fiscal year 2005 budget recommendations to fund public education and to invest in the Performance Plus reading program. Walker recommended a total of \$115.8 million in new funding for public education, which translated to a 6.9 percent increase. This total included \$24.2 million of funding recommendations for 7,160 new students.
- II Governor Walker focused on the importance of reading with a child. “READ with a CHILD” encourages every Utahn to read aloud and tell stories to their children to help them develop a larger vocabulary, a longer attention span, better listening skills, and a good reading foundation. Under the initiative, Walker introduced a “book of the month”, initiated a summer reading program, created community “story buses”, held grassroots community book festivals, and used the Governor’s Commission on Literacy as her expert panel on literacy issues and research.
- II Governor Walker, in her commitment to fund higher education initiatives, issued a challenge to university leaders for technology transfer and remediation. The governor announced a 4 percent increase in her fiscal year 2005 budget recommendations to fund higher education. The \$39 million increase includes \$24.9 million in state funds.
- II Governor Walker and Ken Garff Automotive Group joined with other sponsors to create a high school literacy program designed to encourage students to improve their academic performance. The Keys to Success Program awarded 50 automobiles and more than 50,000 tickets to college and professional events to students who met academic goals.
- II In order to better meet the needs of Utah’s high-tech companies that require more scientists, mathematics and engineers, Governor Walker was instrumental in launching the Early College High Schools. These six, small, high-tech magnet schools allow students to graduate with two years of college credit as well as a high school diploma.

HEALTH

- II Governor Walker and the Utah Department of Health encouraged state employees to work healthier and offered recommendations for healthy eating and physical activity. Walker announced eight *Work Well* recommendations to help Utah state employees eat better and get more physical activity. The recommendations are designed to prevent obesity, decrease absenteeism and health care costs, reduce stress, improve morale and productivity, and promote the lifelong health of employees and their families.

- II In November 2003, Governor Walker launched the “Utah Walks” media campaign, and the Utah Walks mile tracker went online. Utah residents can sign up as individuals or in groups, such as cities, counties, schools, and worksites, to track their daily walking mileage and engage in some healthy competition. The goal is to “Walk to Mars,” or a total of 34 million miles. As of August 2004, Utahns have walked a total of 1,928,688 miles.
- II Governor Walker launched the “Work Ability” program of the Utah Department of Health, the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation and the Department of Workforce Services. Work Ability is a program and awareness campaign to promote employment for people with disabilities. The campaign tells employers about the benefits of hiring people with disabilities and reaches out to Utahns with disabilities to tell them how to work and still qualify for benefits like Medicaid.
- II Lt. Gov. Gayle McKeachnie helped open a new health clinic at Navajo Mountain in San Juan County for members of the Navajo Nation. The dedication ceremony was attended by leaders of the Navajo Nation as well as local and state officials.

HUMAN SERVICES

- II Governor Walker and the Department of Human Services (DHS) presented the “Transition to Adult Living Initiative” for youth who age out of foster care to live successfully as adults. At least 200 Utah youth face these challenges each year as they age out of foster care. Seventy-five of them came to DHS in 2003 to explain what they needed to become independent. DHS joined with other agencies and community partners and the Transition to Adult Living Initiative was born. Early results of the initiative include a Web site answering questions about housing, health care, and school finances. Other results include priority status for foster youth to receive education, training and employment services, Medicaid coverage until age 19, low-income housing, caseworker access and the opportunity to complete driver education.
- II Governor Walker launched the 24/7 Web site, “Utah Cares”, to help families and individuals in need find services. Through this Web site, local resources including health information and programs, as well as food, clothing and housing, can be found quickly. As part of the Walker Work Plan, the Web site is not only a way of working smarter through online government, but it also maximizes human potential. The Utah Department of Health has been an important partner in the collaborative development of Utah Cares. Utah Cares is free and confidential and was built in partnership with UDOH, Department of Human Services and the Department of Workforce Services.
- II Governor Walker kicked-off Utah’s Pamela Atkinson Homeless Trust Fund campaign to aid the state’s providers of services to homeless people. The 2004 campaign which encourages taxpayers to contribute to the fund carries the slogan, “Homelessness has a new face, and it looks a lot like you.” Money contributed to the fund goes directly to support statewide

homeless assistance programs providing shelter, temporary housing, home placement, food, and career counseling.

NATIONAL GUARD

- II During Governor Walker’s administration, the Utah National Guard deeply involved in the Global War on Terrorism, deployed 3,882 Army National Guard members and 503 Air Guard members to Afghanistan and Iraq for rotations lasting from 90 days to 18 months. For each deployment, Governor Walker or Lt. Gov. McKeachnie attended the departure ceremonies and spoke with the troops and their families offering words of encouragement. She also continued to support the troops as they returned from overseas deployments by attending their homecomings.
- II Governor Walker reviewed and paid tribute to the soldiers and airmen of the Utah National Guard during the 2004 Governor’s Day celebration at Camp Williams. This was the first drill since coming home from deployments in Iraq or Afghanistan. Several Guard members received awards including Purple Hearts and Bronze Stars from the governor. Governor Walker commended each individually for their awards, contributions and dedication to duty. The governor was presented with the Utah Minuteman Award by the Adjutant General Major General Brian Tarbet for her contributions to the Utah National Guard.

NATURAL RESOURCES

- II During the Walker Administration, and as part of her Watershed Initiative, 66 new Adopt-A-Waterbody groups improved lakes and streams in 25 watersheds throughout Utah. New environmental education resource books were developed and distributed to all fourth and ninth grade classrooms. An estimated 6,000 students received watershed education in the classroom, and an estimated 23,000 people received watershed information through water fairs, expositions, festivals, scouting, and other community events.

TAX COMMISSION

- II The Utah State Tax Commission implemented the Fresh Start Program for Utah taxpayers who may have become delinquent on filing tax returns due to hardship or various reasons. This program provides assistance and resources that allow these taxpayers an opportunity and method to remedy their delinquency and come back into full compliance with the law.

WORKFORCE SERVICES

- II The Department of Workforce Services (DWS) established a Career Management System for its employees. This system will have benchmarks and a certification process for all DWS employees to ensure consistent quality in the delivery of services.

- II Governor Walker and the Department of Workforce Services launched the *Careers.utah.gov* Web site providing information to military service members being deployed, already deployed, or returning from deployment.
- II The Department of Workforce Services established Cultural Integration initiatives to assist Utah companies and hundreds of workers to increase their cultural integration and build their English skills for their mutual benefit.



Working Smarter

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- II Governor Walker and the Division of Finance were recognized for excellence in financial management and reporting. The state of Utah also maintained its valued AAA Bond Rating.
- II The Department of Administrative Services Division of Archives new state-of-the-art facility was completed on time and within budget. The new facility houses an automated records retrieval system that also significantly improves the records preservation environment.
- II The Department of Administrative Services, Office of Debt Collection, increased debt collections and revenue owed to the state by 5.5 percent.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

- II In October 2004, Utah was one of 17 states to initiate the National Animal Identification System. The project uses electronic chip technology to identify and track the location of all livestock. The program would be used to protect the nation's food supply should there be an outbreak of animal disease.

COMMERCE

- II Utility-related research and testimony by Division of Public Utility and Committee of Consumer Services staff before the Public Service Commission resulted in millions of dollars in savings to Utah consumers.
- II The Division of Consumer Protection reached a settlement agreement with a major wireless telephone provider resulting in the company's improved service practices and refunds to hundreds of customers.
- II The Division of Securities announced a \$4,125,000 settlement with various brokerage houses for securities analyst conflict of interest violations. Product disclosures required as part of the settlement will better protect future investments made by Utahns.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- II Governor Walker launched a series of trade missions with delegations of business and government leaders to go to Vancouver, San Jose, Belgium, Germany, Brazil, Chile, China and Asian nations.
- II Governor Walker designated four new Smart Sites in southern Utah. The new Smart Sites include: The Possibility Forge, Inc., Elite Publishing Services, Longs Digital Solutions, and Eminence Management Consulting. Since the Smart Site was launched, 759 jobs have been created at more than 40 Smart Site enterprises.

- II The Board of Business and Economic Development approved incentives that would create 475 new jobs at two manufacturing facilities in northern Utah. The board approved a rebate of new incremental state revenues for Williams International under the new aerospace and aviation incentive created last year by Utah lawmakers. The board approved a \$1 million incentive from the Industrial Assistance Fund for BD Medical to expand its Sandy facility.

CORRECTIONS

- II The Department of Corrections (DOC) cut more than \$29 million dollars in ongoing funds and one-time funds because of the state's budget shortfall. By Working Smarter, the DOC sustained these cuts through attrition of supervisory staff and by reducing the demand for prison beds. By using alternatives to prison for offenders violating conditions of probation and parole, DOC reduced expected prison growth by nearly 70 percent, saving the state more than \$57 million dollars in construction costs for new prison beds.

ENVIRONMENT

- II Utah made progress toward cleaner air when Governor Walker signed a letter of submittal to the U.S. Environmental Agency, setting in motion Utah's plan to improve and protect air quality in national parks in the west. Utah is the first state to have an approved regional haze plan. The plan's goal is to reduce sulfur dioxide by 50 to 70 percent by 2040.
- II The U.S. Environmental Agency classifies all of Utah's 29 counties in compliance with stricter federal clean air standards regarding ozone pollution. The goal of cleaner, safer air to breathe, especially in populated areas, is being met.
- II After a full review, Utah received an overall "satisfactory" rating, the highest grade given, from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for managing radioactive materials and low-level radioactive waste. It also found "the Utah program adequate to protect public health and safety and compatible with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's program."
- II The Utah State Legislature appropriated, and Governor Walker approved, \$500,000 to continue to oppose storage of high-level nuclear waste in Utah. Governor Walker stayed the course opposing storage of spent nuclear fuel rods in the West Desert in order to ensure protection of quality of life, public health, and the environment.
- II Utah received authority from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to regulate uranium mills and tailings in the state. Primacy of this program means better communication with the public, more public participation, elimination of duplicative regulatory responsibilities, and a more cost-effective program for the regulated community.
- II Utah and EPA signed a unique Memorandum of Agreement that launched Clean Utah!, a new program that recognizes and rewards business and

industry for voluntarily taking steps, beyond those required by law, to prevent and reduce pollution. The action is a significant step forward in protecting and enhancing Utah's environment and quality of life.

- II During the Walker Administration, the Utah Drinking Water Board authorized \$16.5 million in loans and grants for drinking water system infrastructure improvements to provide cleaner, safer drinking water to citizens.
- II Utah remains in compliance with the health-based standards for ozone. During the summer ozone season, there were zero voluntary “no-drive days,” and not a single day was rated as unhealthy.
- II Governor Walker and DEQ worked with various partners to raise awareness of children's environmental health by hosting a free public fair featuring nearly 30 information booths. Utah is effectively working with partners to make a difference in the lives of children.

Health

- II The Utah Department of Health launched a new resource, RxConnect Utah, to connect people with programs to help them get affordable medicine. One in ten Utahns say they have gone without medicine in the past year because it was too expensive. RxConnect connects people with programs offered through pharmaceutical companies.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- II Governor Walker and the Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM) implemented an online recruitment system called Utah Job Match-Recruitment (UJM-Recruitment). Phase I for internal recruitments was implemented January 2004. Phase II for public recruitments will be implemented March 2005. This 24/7 system allows job seekers to apply for open state positions and access and update personal work history and information.

INSURANCE

- II The Utah Department of Insurance online Medicare Supplement benefits page can be updated by the 34 insurers selling this coverage in Utah. A consumer using this page can compare current prices of the various benefit plans offered by the 34 carriers before purchasing coverage.

NATURAL RESOURCES

- II The Take Pride in Utah (TPIU) program has been the premier multi-government volunteer organization for community and public land projects since the late 1980's. Housed at the Department of Natural Resources, TPIU was honored in 2004 by U.S. Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton and the Take Pride in America program as the “Outstanding State Organization” in the country. This honor was due largely to the efforts associated with the Governor's Watershed Initiative launched by

Olene Walker. TPIU operates without any state funding and relies on partnerships and in 2004 received their first “tree planting” grant from the USDA Forest Service. Nevertheless, the program is recognized by most Utahns as the primary community clean-up program in the state.

TAX COMMISSION

- II The Utah State Tax Commission received the largest amount of online transactions for Income Tax, Sales Tax and Motor Vehicle renewals this year. Online systems include the online payment of all taxes, special events registration, and a One-Stop Business Registration system that was implemented as a joint effort of many government entities. Electronic filing options were used by over 40 percent of the income tax filers, reducing paper handling and errors.

TRANSPORTATION

- II The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) completed a widening project to eliminate the “bottleneck” on I-15 in south Salt Lake County. UDOT also extended the carpool lanes into Utah County as part of the project. Commuters now have 25 miles of continuous carpool lanes on I-15, from 600 North in Salt Lake County to the Alpine interchange in Utah County.
- II The Utah Department of Transportation, through a self-imposed evaluation, identified more than \$5 million in reductions and reallocated the money to highway projects throughout the state. The evaluation was truly “employee led” with more than 130 UDOT employees participating in the effort. A portion of the \$5 million was the result of the elimination of 98 full-time employee (FTE) positions. Many of those positions were vacant at the time of the evaluation, due to UDOT’s self-imposed hiring freeze in 2003.



Improving Utah Today and Tomorrow

COMMERCE

- II The Department of Commerce announced its award winning online application of the OneStop Business Registration (OSBR). OSBR is a culmination of an enterprise project between the IRS, local governments, Utah Tax and Labor Commissions, and Utah Departments of Commerce, Workforce Services and Environmental Quality. The application greatly reduces the time required for a new business to comply with state and federal legal requirements. Utah received a national award from the Center for Digital Government (Best of the Web) for this initiative. OSBR also won a runner-up award from the National Association of State Information Systems in Government to Business Service category for “innovative solutions in the operation of state government.”

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- II Governor Walker created the Global Enhancement Opportunities (GEO) council. GEO is a “think tank” involving business, education and government leaders to enhance Utah’s involvement in the global economy and position Utah for the future. Three initiatives under GEO include: creating an international center for study with Utah’s universities; building an international trade center in Salt Lake City; and using Utahns’ foreign language skills to make Utah the foreign language training center of the world.
- II One of Governor Walker's main concerns is retaining Hill Air Force Base. To that end she recommended \$5 million dollars in the fiscal year 2006 budget. The funds will be used to increase funding for software development for F-16 aircraft. This will provide approximately 125 new high-tech jobs at the base.
- II Governor Walker set a goal to advance research commercialization in Utah’s research universities. This Technology Transfer Initiative involved hosting two forums encouraging university, business and state government leaders to develop ideas to improve higher education’s role in Utah’s economic development. Governor Walker announced a 4 percent increase in her fiscal year 2005 budget recommendations to fund higher education. The \$39 million increase includes \$24.9 million in state funds.
- II Governor Walker created and hosted a forum to discuss her Higher Education and Workforce Development Initiative. Higher education and business leaders identified Utah’s workforce needs, demands, surpluses and shortages. They also discussed the gaps between workforce demands and college graduate skills. Plans were made for future, ongoing sharing of information among higher education officials, the Division of Workforce Development and the business community.
- II Governor Walker and the Division of Housing and Community Development hosted a Homeless Summit. The state unveiled a 10-year

plan to end chronic homelessness. The conference was attended by more than 200 government leaders and service providers.

- II Governor Walker signed an executive order creating a Rural Partnership Board, chaired by Lt. Gov. Gayle McKeachnie, to allow local citizens opportunities to improve economic development in rural communities. The board has made its first report to the governor.
- II Malt-O-Meal opened its new manufacturing and distribution facility in Tremonton. This is Malt-O-Meal's first facility in the west. Lt. Gov. Gayle McKeachnie attended the event.
- II Governor Walker and the Department of Community and Economic Development announced that Cabela's, a 150,000 square-foot, 400 employee store, will be built in Lehi, Utah.
- II The Board of Business and Economic Development approved incentives of \$965,600 for two companies to create nearly 500 new jobs in Utah. Board members approved a maximum incentive of \$350,000 for a proposed West Desert High Energy Astrophysics Facility in Millard County.
- II Orgill, Inc., the nation's largest independent distributor of home improvement products, held an official groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction of its new Hurricane distribution center. Orgill Inc. selected the Hurricane site after a lengthy search, during which the Division of Business and Economic Development and local governments worked with the company.
- II The Board of Business and Economic Development approved incentives of nearly \$3 million for three companies to launch a demonstration project for film incentives and to help the Salt Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau retain the Outdoor Retailers Convention in Utah.
- II Governor Walker signed an Executive Order creating the Utah Quarter Dollar Commemorative Coin Commission. The commission is tasked with developing a process to allow any Utahn to submit a narrative recommendation for design of the Utah Commemorative Quarter that will be issued in 2007.

CORRECTIONS

- II The Department of Corrections joined with the state Division of Facilities Construction and Management and the State Energy Office to reduce the consumption of water, natural gas and electricity at the Draper Prison. The private energy provider making the improvements guaranteed that the state would save money over the next 16 years to pay for the \$11.5 million cost of the improvements. The Draper prison sits on the geothermal reservoir, which has been tapped as an alternative energy source, to provide heat and hot water to prison facilities. When completed, the geothermal project should save the DOC \$190,000 a year in heating costs.

Improvements in plumbing are expected to save one million gallons of water per year. Other improvements in electrical systems, heating and cooling equipment and insulation will also reduce energy use. When the project is completed, the savings will be more than \$700,000 a year in utility costs.

- II The Department of Corrections added 300 inmate beds to its total capacity by opening the Lone Peak minimum security housing facility. DOC closed Lone Peak in 2003 and moved staff and offenders to the bigger 400-bed Promontory facility. DOC is now moving offenders who will soon be released on parole into the idle Lone Peak housing unit.

ENVIRONMENT

- II DEQ launched the www.childrenshealth.utah.gov Web site to provide more information to the public regarding children's environmental health. This site helps the public learn more about children's environmental issues and connects them with partners in their communities.
- II Governor Walker signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA Forest Service in September 2004. The MOU established a Forest Restoration Partnership Working Group. This group is charged with monitoring and guiding programs that will benefit forests and communities of the Central Colorado Plateau and Great Basin.

NATURAL RESOURCES

- II Governor Walker and Lt. Gov. Gayle McKeachnie brought various groups together to discuss developing a wilderness proposal that would determine wilderness designation in the state of Utah. The interested parties, ranging from ranchers, conservationists, government leaders and outdoor recreation participants, determined it would be best to work county by county, on the local level. Washington County was the first county to participate, followed by Millard County. Each parcel of land is discussed by the group to determine actual use designation.
- II Governor Walker charged Lt. Gov. Gayle McKeachnie to make progress on R.S. 2477 roads in rural Utah. In 2004, Utah submitted its first R.S. 2477 claim to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). There are applications on six roads pending at the BLM, and 20 additional roads have been noticed for Quiet Title Actions. Work is proceeding with the counties to secure titles on those roads.
- II The Walker Administration organized a Public Lands Team under the Department of Natural Resources with several groups to coordinate the state's efforts on public lands issues.
- II The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service are both doing resource management planning in 2004. The Department of Natural Resources Public Lands Team worked on 10 BLM plans and several Forest Service plans representing how public lands in the state will be managed for the next 10 to 15 years.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- II On November 7, 2003, Governor Walker created the Utah Wireless Integrated Network (UWIN) Governing Board and challenged it to build a statewide wireless voice and data public safety communication network that would benefit both urban and rural Utah. Phase I, the voice component, was completed on July 1, 2004. Phase II, the data component, will be operational by spring of 2005. UWIN integrates existing independently-managed networks into a single interoperable statewide network. It provides seamless, coordinated and integrated communication for local, state and federal agencies. UWIN provides statewide voice and data interoperability; improved data and information sharing; and enhanced coordination of multi-jurisdictional responses. It ensures vertical interoperability between local, state and federal agencies and horizontal interoperability among state agencies.
- II The Utah National Guard and Governor Walker supported the effort to bring a new terrorist response unit to Utah. The 85th Civil Support Team was activated in December and became a key tool in the arsenal to keep the state safe in the event of a Weapons of Mass Destruction threat or attack. Governor Walker was also involved with the initial testing of the Automated Evaluation Assessment System, which will allow state, local and National Guard leaders to develop strategies for homeland security emergencies using a multifaceted computer-based system.
- II Governor Walker has been an avid supporter of the Utah National Guard Homeland Security efforts, in conjunction with the Public Safety Commission, to increase preparedness in the event of a terrorist incident. Governor Walker's support and close cooperation with the joint planning efforts has made Utah better prepared in this critical area.

TAX COMMISSION

- II Spearheaded by Governor Walker, a team of tax experts served for one year as part of a Tax Advisor's Group. This group applied their tax, business and legal expertise in researching, supporting, and developing a recommendation for reforming and updating Utah's tax structure to better serve the state and its future. The findings and recommendations were then presented to legislators and the incoming governor-elect.

TRANSPORTATION

- II Governor Walker and the Utah Department of Transportation opened the Park Lane Interchange in Farmington which acts as the crossroads of northern Utah. The interchange provides Farmington residents with east-west access across the freeway and also provides the most complex component of what is known as the "Shared Solution" to transportation challenges in Northern Utah.
- II The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) is in the final stages of completing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) in order to resume construction of the Legacy Parkway. The SEIS will

address the “limited deficiencies” outlined by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. In addition to preparing the SEIS, UDOT has made substantial progress on the Legacy Nature Preserve. The 2,098-acre nature preserve will not only serve as sanctuary for wildlife; but will also serve as a boundary for development, forever protecting the delicate ecosystem of the Great Salt Lake.

WORKFORCE SERVICES

- II The Department of Workforce Services was recognized by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for its success in “Welfare Reform” by earning a \$3.5 million high performance bonus for moving people from cash assistance to employment in jobs with high retention rates.